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When it is difficult to particularize any one chapter, or, as it occurs in this instance, any one poem, the general tone must be interesting indeed.

Mr. Bunner has given many lines that remind us of the standard poets, not imitations, but suggestions of familiar couplets that we had read long ago.

"Does not Chloe,
See, the wood remembering misses,
Sweetness of our last year's kisses,
Recall Anacreon to our mind;
Then her lip, so rich in blisses!
Sweet petitioners for kisses!"

Or the opening words of the delightful "Love Letter,"

"Dear girl:
The town goes on as though
It thought you still were in it;
The gilded cage seems scarce to know
That it has lost its linnet,"

revive Chloe's letter to Clara in John G. Saxe's poem:

"The town is exceedingly dull,
And so is the latest new farce;
The parks are uncommonly full,
But beaux are deplorably scarce."

While a memory of Præd will come up in our mind as we read "Accepted."

"And wakening the twinkling shadows that played with her little feet—
Playing hide-and-seek with the little feet that peeped from beneath her gown."

Since Baker's "Point Lace and Diamonds," there has been no more readable collection of society verses brought together than in this very volume by Mr. Bunner.

"My house; an ideal," was written by Oliver B. Bunce evidently with the purpose of attracting attention in a pleasant way to the errors in the construction and in the furnishing of our houses. Mr. Bunce has built an imaginative structure much more substantial and possessing many more admirable sanitary and decorative improvements than would any actual dwelling erected by human hands, for the airy castle, which is the outcome of the author's brain, was not subject to a contractor's profit or the shirking reliability of a workman; it gives an idea of how near to perfection a home not only should, but may approach. The suggestions it makes for the arrangement of the house are often original and always excellent.

"Stories by American authors" is the title of a collection of the best short stories that have appeared during the past few years in our American magazines. As the publishers say in the advertisement of the books, it is surprising that some attempt has not been heretofore made to bring together the random writings of our native writers. Some of the very best productions of American authors have been in the shape of complete short stories limited to the publishing capacity of our periodicals. The selection already published is well made, and the stories cannot fail to be entertaining and profitable reading. The volumes are neatly printed and bound in cloth, contain about 200 pages, and sell for fifty cents each. (Messrs. Scribner's Sons, N. Y.).

It is with great pleasure that we receive a new edition of Doctor Johns, by the author of "Reveries of a Bachelor," in a neat dress of good type and fine paper, from Charles Scribner's Sons. This charming story carries us back to the times when Mr. Marvel gave us a book more frequently than now, and to those who have known the delights of his personal acquaintance, it is especially welcome. The story is very interesting, a perfect picture of old-time New England, as our grandfathers and grandmothers knew it. The characters are many, and well delineated, the descriptions are beautiful, and through the web and woof of the story are woven many truths and much rich thought, the results of the discriminating observation of a long, well-spent life. Our advice to our readers is to read Dr. Johns at once.



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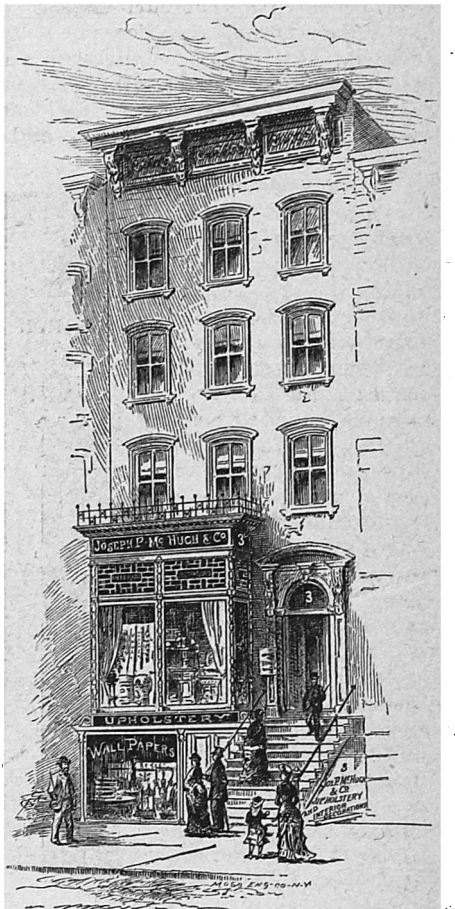
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